Sri Adi Janardana Temple, Shrimanthoor, Mulki, Udupi, Karnataka

Info is given on "Sri Adi Janardana Temple" at Shrimanthoor, Mulki, Udupi, Karnataka..under the following headings:
Location, address, phone number etc, how to get there, temple history, legends, architecture, main deity, subdeities, speciality of this temple, daily poojas, special poojas, sevas and offerings and their charges, mode of payment and bank acct info etc, festivals, facilities for devotees, similar temples nearby, tourist attractions nearby, budget hotels in the vicinity, any other info..etc

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Location, Address, Phone Number etc, How to Get There

The Sri Adi Janardana Temple (also known as Sri Adi Janardana Devasthana) is located in Shimanthoor (or Seemanthooru) village, near Mulki in Dakshina Kannada district, Karnataka (close to the Udupi district border, often associated with the region).
It lies on the banks of a serene river, amid lush greenery, about 25 km north of Mangalore and 35 km south of Udupi.

Full Address:

Sri Adi Janardana Temple, Shimanthoor Post – 574154, Mulki Taluk, Dakshina Kannada District, Karnataka, India.

Phone Number: +91-824-2294745 (for inquiries, pooja bookings, and general contact).

Temple Timings:

Monday to Friday: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM & 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM.
Saturday, Sunday, and holidays: 9:00 AM – 8:00 PM.

Photography is not allowed inside.

How to Get There:

By Air:

Nearest airport is Mangalore International Airport (IXE), about 30 km south (45-60 min drive via NH-66). Taxis or app-based cabs (Ola/Uber) cost ₹800-1,200.

By Train:

Mulki Railway Station is just 2 km away (5-min drive/auto-rickshaw ₹50-100). From there, head via Mangalore-Udupi Highway towards Kinnigoli; after 2 km, spot the temple arch, turn left, and drive 1 km to the temple.

By Road:

From Mangalore (25 km): Take NH-66 north to Mulki, then local roads to Shimanthoor. From Udupi (35 km): South on NH-66 to Mulki. KSRTC buses from Mangalore/Udupi stop at Mulki (frequent, ₹30-50); autos/taxis from there (₹100-200). Ample parking available at the temple. Best time to visit: All year, but avoid monsoons (June-Sept) for easier access.

Temple History

The temple traces its origins to the ancient Tulu Nadu region and was established by Bhagawan Parashurama, an incarnation of Lord Vishnu, who is credited with installing several sacred shrines across coastal Karnataka.
It dates back several centuries, with the village Shimanthoor deriving its name from "Shrimantara Ooru" (land of the rich), reflecting its historical prosperity under prosperous patrons.
The temple gained prominence after a pivotal event involving the main idol's damage and restoration, solidifying its role as a key Vaishnava center in the area.

Legends

The temple's name "Adi Janardana" stems from a fascinating legend:

A few hundred years ago, the original idol of Lord Janardana was damaged (possibly during a natural calamity or conflict). Following shastric traditions, villagers crafted a new idol, but the temple and village soon faced decline—crops failed, and prosperity waned.
Local scholars and astrologers consulted ancient texts and realized the original idol retained its full divine presence (Sannidhana), as it was installed by a realized soul like Parashurama. The damaged idol was repaired and reinstated alongside the new one, restoring the site's sanctity and the village's fortunes.

This unique dual-idol setup symbolizes unwavering divine grace. The temple is also revered as the kuladevata (family deity) for Kashyapa gotra families, with Parashurama's installation ensuring its eternal protection.

Architecture

The temple follows a modest Dravidian-Tulu Nadu style, emphasizing simplicity and serenity over grandeur.
The structure features a single vimana (tower) over the sanctum, with basic mantapas (halls) for devotees. The outer walls are unadorned, focusing on spiritual introspection rather than elaborate carvings.
The riverfront location adds to its tranquil ambiance, with a small courtyard and basic enclosures for rituals.
Renovations have preserved its ancient ethos while adding functional elements like covered pathways.

Main Deity

The main deity is Lord Adi Janardana, a form of Vishnu (Janardana meaning "protector of the people").
It consists of two idols placed side by side in the garbha griha (sanctum): the original "Adi Janardana" (repaired antique murti, depicting Vishnu in standing posture with four arms holding conch, discus, mace, and lotus) and a newer replacement idol of identical form.
The idols are made of stone, adorned with garlands and jewels during poojas, symbolizing eternal vigilance.

Subdeities

The temple is distinctive for lacking a separate Ganapati shrine, unlike most Vishnu temples in Tulu Nadu—Lord Adi Janardana is revered as the "Akhilanda Koti Brahmanda Nayaka" (Lord of Infinite Universes), rendering other idols unnecessary.
However, it honors Bhutas (guardian spirits) like Rakteshwari (a form of Shakti) in a dedicated enclosure, invoked for protection against malevolent forces.

Speciality of This Temple

The temple's hallmark is its rare dual-idol configuration—the original Adi Janardana and its companion—believed to amplify divine energy, making it a powerful site for prayers related to family prosperity, protection from calamities, and restoration after losses.
As a Parashurama-sthala (site installed by the sage), it holds immense astrological and tantric significance, especially for Kashyapa gotra devotees.
The absence of a Ganapati idol underscores its unique "complete" status, where Vishnu alone suffices.
It's also a symbol of resilience, as the village's revival post-idol repair is attributed to divine intervention.

Daily Poojas

Daily rituals follow Vaishnava traditions, starting with Suprabhata (morning wake-up chants) at opening (9:00 AM), followed by Abhishekam (sacred bath with milk/honey), Alankara (decoration), and Naivedya (offerings of fruits/rice).

Evening poojas include Sandhya Aarti (lamp worship) around 7:00 PM, with Tulsi Archana.

Devotees can participate in simple darshan; no advance booking needed for basics.

Special Poojas, Sevas and Offerings and Their Charges

Special sevas include Panchamruta Abhishekam (five-nectar bath), Kalyana Utsava (celestial wedding), and Sahasranama Archana (1000-name chant).

Offerings like tender coconut (elaneer) or garlands are common for prosperity vows. Exact charges vary (e.g., basic Archana ₹50-100, Utsava ₹500-2,000), but detailed lists aren't

publicly available online—contact the temple office for current rates and bookings. Bhutas like Rakteshwari have annual special homas for protection.

Mode of Payment and Bank Acct Info etc

Payments for sevas are typically cash or UPI (via temple QR code).
For donations (tax-exempt under 80G), use bank transfer: Account details available at the temple counter (SBI or Canara Bank, as common for Karnataka temples).
No specific account numbers found online; inquire via phone for PAN/IFSC. Online donations may be supported through temple-affiliated trusts—confirm directly.

Festivals

Key festivals include:

- Rama Navami (March-April, with processions),
- Janmashtami (August, Krishna cradle rituals),
- Maha Shivratri (February-March, night vigil),
- Holi, Ganesh Chaturthi, and
- Diwali (grandest, with lights and feasts drawing crowds).

The annual Utsava spans 6 days from Kumbha Masa Saptami (late February-early March), featuring chariot pulls, music, and community feasts.

Vaikunta Ekadashi (December) is marked by special darshan queues

Facilities for Devotees

Basic facilities include a small annadana (free meals) hall on festival days, parking for 20-30 vehicles, and restrooms.

No dedicated guest houses, but nearby homestays offer stays.

Wheelchair access is limited due to steps; water and prasad distribution during poojas.

The temple provides simple lodging for priests/volunteers—contact ahead for extended stays.

Similar Temples Nearby

- Sri Venkataramana Temple, Mulki (5 km): Another Vishnu shrine with vibrant festivals.

- Udupi Sri Krishna Matha (35 km): Iconic Vaishnava center, famous for Madhva philosophy.

- Padutirupathy Sri Venkataramana Temple, Karkala (25 km): Known as "Karnataka's Tirupati."

- Sri Durgaparameshwari Temple, Bantakal (15 km): Shakti-Vaishnava fusion site.

Tourist Attractions Nearby

- Mulki Beach (3 km): Serene sands for sunset views and water sports.
- Kudroli Gokarnanatha Temple, Mangalore (25 km): Hoysala-style Shiva shrine with light shows.
- Kallianpur Churches Trail (20 km): Colonial-era architecture and Indo-Portuguese heritage.
- Moodbidri Jaina Basadi (30 km): Thousand-pillar Jain temple complex.

Budget Hotels in the Vicinity

- Payal Nivas Beach Cottage, Padubidri (10 km from Mulki): ₹1,500-2,500/night; beachfront, basic AC rooms.
- Gaurika Residency, Padubidri (12 km): ₹1,000-1,800/night; clean, family-run with meals.
- Silver Waves Beach Stay, Mulki (5 km): ₹800-1,500/night; eco-cottages near temple.
- Treebo Sky City Grand, Mangalore (25 km): ₹1,200-2,000/night; budget chain with airport proximity. Book via Booking.com or MakeMyTrip for deals under ₹2,000.

Any Other Info..etc

The temple is especially potent for vows related to wealth and protection, with legends claiming it as a "wealth magnet" due to the village's name.

It's eco-friendly, with a small sacred grove (devakadu).

Devotees offer elaneer (tender coconut) for vitality.

For groups, guided tours can be arranged via local operators (₹500-1,000/person).

Visit during early mornings for peaceful darshan. Now entry fee; Modest dress code.

For latest updates, follow temple Facebook groups like "Shimanthoor Adi Janardana.

Jai Sri Adi Janardana!

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Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar
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